Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, The safety and well-being of children is a priority in South Dakota; and,

Whereas, More than 200,000 children are injured on playgrounds in the United States each year equaling an average of one playground-related emergency room visit every 2½ minutes; and,

Whereas, The National Program for Playground Safety has been created at the University of Northern Iowa to help inform the nation about playground injuries and possible ways to reduce the number of injuries; and,

Whereas, The National Program for Playground Safety has identified key areas that could help substantially reduce the number of playground injuries and keep our children SAFE – providing: proper Supervision, Age appropriate equipment, materials to soften Falls to the surface, and Equipment maintenance; and,

Whereas, Spring is often a time that children head to the playground, and a large percentage of playground injuries occur from April through June; and,

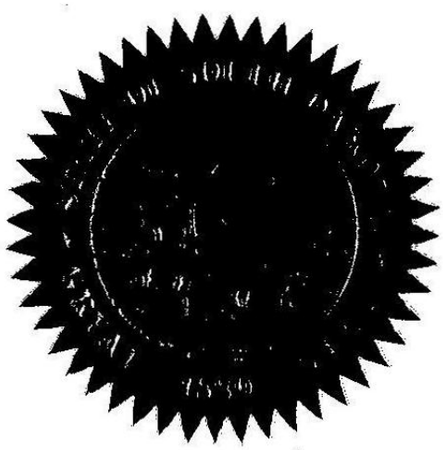
Whereas, Schools, parks, and other public facilities are preparing for the summer season and playground participants; and,

Whereas, The National Program for Playground Safety has designated April 26 – 30, 2004, as National Playground Safety Week:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim April 26-30, 2004, as

PLAYGROUND SAFETY WEEK

in South Dakota, and I urge all citizens to join in this important observance.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Nineteenth Day of April in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Four.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State